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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
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TEXT  
TAGS: CVIS( NEUMANN, HANS HENDRIK)  
SUBJECT: 212 (A) (33) CASE

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3828  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2001 2007

REF: A). VICTARS 082847 B). HAMBURG 1550

1. MANY THANKS FOR POST'S EXCELLENT CABLE RELATING  
INTERVIEW OF MR. NEUMANN. RESEARCH INTO HIS CAREER HAS  
PRODUCED NEW INFORMATION WHICH TENDS TO SUPPORT  
DEPARTMENT'S PRIOR FINDING OF INELIGIBILITY.  
NEVERTHELESS, GIVEN THE INTEREST IN THE CASE AND ITS  
RELATIVE SENSITIVITY, DEPTOFF REQUESTS THAT POST ASK MR.  
NEUMANN THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AND REQUEST THAT HE  
FURNISH COMMENTS AND CLARIFICATIONS.

2. -WHAT WAS HIS RELATIONSHIP TO DR. HERBERT MELHORN?  
-IS IT NOT TRUE THAT NEUMANN WAS MADE HEYDRICH'S  
ADJUTANT BECAUSE HE HAD BEEN WORKING IN THE SD SINCE  
1933, AND HAD COME TO HIS CHIEF'S ATTENTION?  
-WHAT PART DID NEUMANN PLAY IN THE JUNE 30, 1934  
"NIGHT OF THE LONG KNIVES" IN WHICH SA LEADER ERNST ROHM  
WAS PURGED?  
- WHAT WAS HIS RELATIONSHIP TO JOSEF TERBOVEN, THEN  
GAULEITER OF WESTPHALIA. WAS HE HEYDRICH'S LIASON WITH

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TERBOVEN?

3. POST IS QUITE CORRECT IN ITS ASSESSMENT OF MR. NEUMANN AS AN EARLY AND COMMITTED NATIONAL SOCIALIST. HE WAS ASSOCIATED WITH RIGHTIST YOUTH GROUPS SUCH AS THE SACHSICHEN JUGENDSHCAFT AND THE PFADFINDER MOVEMENT AS A BOY. NEUMANN JOINED THE SA IN MAY, 1930 AT THE AGE OF 19 IN CHEMNITZ, WHERE THE NEUMANN FAMILY WAS THEN LIVING, WORKING HIS WAY UP TO SA-SCHARFUHRER (SARGEANT). HE JOINED THE NSDAP IN JUNE OF THAT YEAR. IT IS LIKELY THAT HE WAS CO-OPTED INTO INTELLIGENCE-GATHERING WORK FOR THE SA, SPYING OUT THE ACTIVITIES OF COMMUNIST AND OTHER LEFT-WING PARTIES, SUPPORTING THE MAIN MISSION OF THE SA WHICH WAS THE BREAKING UP OF MEETINGS OF OPPOSITION PARTIES BY STREET FIGHTING AND BEATINGS, AND THE GENERAL INTIMIDATION OF ANY OPPOSITION TO THE NAZIS.

3. IT IS ALSO LIKELY THAT HE ATTRACTED THE ATTENTION OF DR. HERBERT MELHORN, WHO WAS A MEMBER OF THE SA FROM CHEMNITZ, AND WHO WAS SPYING ON SA ACTIVITIES ON BEHALF OF THE SS. MELHORN LEFT CHEMNITZ TO OPENLY JOIN THE NEW SICHERHEITSDIENST (SD), THE INTELLIGENCE SERVICE OF THE SS, IN MARCH OF 1933, AND PROBABLY RECRUITED NEUMANN, WHO JOINED THE SD IN DECEMBER. REINHARD HEYDRICH, HEAD OF THE SD, LED A SMALL BUT GROWING ORGANIZATION, AND PREFERRED MEN WHO HAD UNIVERSITY AND TECHNICAL BACKGROUNDS. NEUMANN MAY HAVE REMAINED MELHORN'S PROTEGE FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS, FOR REASONS WHICH WILL BE EXPLAINED BELOW.

4. NEUMANN WAS EVIDENTLY EXTREMELY RETICENT ABOUT THIS PERIOD OF HIS CAREER. DEPARTMENT REQUIRES FAR MORE DETAIL ABOUT HIS ACTIVITIES FROM THE YEARS 1933-1940 IN ORDER TO RECONSIDER HIS INELIGIBILITY. THERE ARE NUMEROUS REASONS TO ASSUME THAT HE PARTICIPATED IN ACTS WHICH WERE PLAINLY PERSECUTORY IN NATURE. IT IS WELL KNOWN THAT HEYDRICH ENGINEERED THE ROHM PUTSCH, THE FAMOUS "NIGHT OF THE LONG KNIVES" IN WHICH THE HEAD OF THE SA, ERNST ROHM, AND HUNDREDS OF SA DISSIDENTS AND OPPOSITION MEMBERS WERE JAILED AND/OR MURDERED. IT IS ALSO WELL KNOWN THAT HITLER WAS CONVINCED OF THE NECESSITY FOR THE ROHM PURGE BY HIMMLER'S AND HEYDRICH'S MACHINATIONS, INCLUDING THE FALSIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS WHICH LED HITLER TO BELIEVE THAT ROHM WAS CONTEMPLATING A SECOND REVOLUTION WHICH WOULD SWEEP THE SA INTO POWER. IT IS ALSO HIGHLY INTERESTING THAT HITLER MADE THE FINAL DECISION TO KILL ROHM AND THE SA HIERARCHY

WHILE ATTENDING THE WEDDING OF JOSEPH TERBOVEN, THE GAULEITER OF WESTPHALIA, WHO WAS REPORTEDLY THE MAN WHO FINALLY CONVINCED HITLER THAT THE PURGE WAS NECESSARY. TERBOVEN WAS A RABID HATER OF THE SA, AND HIMSELF HELD SS OFFICER'S RANK. DEPTOFF SUSPECTS THAT NEUMANN WAS SOMEHOW ENGAGED IN THE PLOTTING AGAINST ROHM, AND THAT HE MET TERBOVEN AT THIS TIME. TERBOVEN LATER BECAME REICHSSKOMMISSAR FOR OCCUPIED NORWAY, AND NEUMANN HIS

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DEPUTY.

5. -WHAT WAS HE DOING IN AUSTRIA IN 1938?  
-WHAT WAS HIS PRECISE ROLE IN THE ANSCHLUSS?  
-WAS HE HEYDRICH'S LIASON WITH THE COMMANDERS OF THE TOTENKOPF DIVISION AT HITLER'S HEADQUARTERS DURING THE POLISH CAMPAIGN IN SEPTEMBER, 1939?  
-WHAT WAS THE REAL PURPOSE OF HIS 1940 MISSION TO NORWAY?

6. ACCORDING TO THE BDC SUMMARY, NEUMANN WAS REINHARD HEYDRICH'S ADJUTANT FROM APRIL 20, 1935 UNTIL JANUARY 22, 1940. ACCORDING TO DOCUMENTS IN HIS PERSONNEL FILE, NEUMANN WAS HEYDRICH'S FIRST, OR SENIOR ADJUTANT. THIS WOULD INDICATE A READY ACCESS TO HIS BOSS, AND A MAJOR RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMMUNICATION, REPRESENTATION OF HIS CHIEFS VIEWS TO OTHER PARTIES AND, ABOVE ALL, FAMILIARITY WITH WHAT WAS GOING ON. NEUMANN'S DESCRIPTION OF HIS DUTIES IS INGENUOUS. IT IS QUITE CLEAR THAT HE ENJOYED A CLOSE WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH HEYDRICH, WAS KNOWN BY NAME BY THE REICHSFUHRER SS HEINRICH HIMMLER, WAS SENT ON SEVERAL MISSION ON BEHALF OF THE SD, AND APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN TRUSTED ENOUGH BY HEYDRICH TO HAVE BEEN USED AS HIS PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE IN VARIOUS SITUATIONS. FOR EXAMPLE, ACCORDING TO A LETTER DATED APRIL 2, 1938, TO THE RASSE-UND-SIEDLUNGS HAUPTAMT (RUSHA), NEUMANN WAS IN VIENNA AT THE TIME AND WAS EXPECTED TO BE THERE FOR SOME TIME TO COME. IT IS LIKELY THAT NEUMANN HAD BEEN SENT TO AUSTRIA DURING OR SHORTLY AFTER THE ANSCHLUSS (TAKEOVER OF AUSTRIA) IN MARCH TO SUPERVISE THE SD COMPONENT OF THE INVASION FORCE, AND TO BE HEYDRICH'S "EYES AND EARS." IT IS ALSO WORTH NOTING THAT **ADOLF EICHMANN**, THE "JEWISH EXPERT", WAS ANOTHER SD MAN WHO HAD BEEN SENT TO AUSTRIA AT THE SAME TIME.

7. NEUMANN ALSO STATED THAT HE WAS SLATED TO GO TO TOKYO AS A MEMBER OF THE GERMAN LEGATION, BUT WAS HELD

UP BY EVENTS, AND WAS INSTEAD ASSIGNED TO GENERAL ROMMEL'S HEADQUARTERS. THERE ARE TWO INTERESTING ASPECTS TO THIS STATEMENT. THE FIRST IS THAT DR. HERBERT MELHORN, MENTIONED ABOVE, HAD FALLEN FROM HEYDRICH'S FAVOR AND BEEN SENT TO THE GERMAN LEGATION IN TOKYO IN GENTEEL EXILE. NEUMANN MAY HAVE BEEN INTENDED TO REPLACE MELHORN, WHO HAD BEEN CALLED BACK TO THE SD IN MID 1939 TO HELP ARRANGE THE FAKE BORDER INCIDENT AT GLEIWITZ WHICH WAS TO BE THE PRETEXT FOR THE INVASION OF POLAND. IN ANY EVENT, IT IS CLEAR THAT NEUMANN PLAYED SOME KIND OF LIASON ROLE IN EITHER THIS SECRET OPERATION OR IN THE INVASION. GENERAL ERWIN VON ROMMEL OF LATER AFRIKA KORPS FAME WAS, AT THE TIME, COMMANDER OF HITLER'S BODYGUARD. NEUMANN WAS APPARENTLY ASSIGNED TO HITLER'S HEADQUARTERS DURING THE INVASION. THE INVASION OF POLAND WAS CARRIED OUT BY THE WEHRMACHT, WHICH HAD ITS OWN INTELLIGENCE SERVICE. THE SS ROLE CONSISTED OF

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"OCCUPATION" DUTIES BEHIND THE ARMY. WHAT THIS MEANT IN REALITY WAS THAT UNITS OF THE SS TOTENKOPFSTANDARTEN AND THE VERFUGUNGSTRUPPE WERE FORMED INTO EINSATZGRUPPEN WHICH TERRORIZED THE COUNTRYSIDE, ROUNDING UP AND SLAUGHTERING JEWS, CLERGY AND ANYONE CONSIDERED PART OF THE INTELLIGENSIA. THIS OPERATION WAS PLANNED AND SUPERVISED BY HEYDRICH. IT IS REASONABLE TO BELIEVE THAT NEUMANN'S PRESENCE AT HITLER'S OPERATIONAL HQ IN SEPTEMBER OF 1939, WAS PRIMARILY FOR THE PURPOSE OF OVERSEEING THE ACTIONS OF THESE UNITS AND REPORTING BACK TO HIS BOSS ON THEIR PROGRESS.

8. IN A SIMILAR VEIN, WE FIND MR. NEUMANN DISPATCHED ON A SPECIAL MISSION TO NORWAY BY ORDER OF HIMMLER HIMSELF IN MAY 1940. HIS ACCOUNT OF THE PURPOSE OF THIS MISSION, THAT HE WAS SENT ON BEHALF OF THE AHNENERBE (ANCESTRAL HERITAGE SOCIETY) TO PROTECT OLD GERMAN CHURCHES IS CALLED INTO QUESTION BY A LETTER DATED 31 MAY, 1940 FROM OSLO WHICH WAS FOUND IN HIS PERSONNEL FILE. NEUMANN WROTE TO AN UNNAMED OBERFUHRER COMPLAINING THAT HE WAS HAVING A GREAT DEAL OF TROUBLE GETTING THE WEHRMACHT TO PROVIDE HIM AIR TRANSPORTATION TO ACCOMPLISH HIS MISSION. IN THE COURSE OF THE LETTER HE DESCRIBES HOW HE WAS TAKEN FROM HIS JUST-RECEIVED COMMAND OF A COMPANY IN THE SS REGIMENT "DEUTSCHLAND" AND, AT THE PERSONAL ORDER OF THE REICHSFUHRER SS (HIMMLER) ASSIGNED TO A SPECIAL MISSION IN NORWAY "FIVE HOURS BEFORE THE INVASION BEGAN." HE GOES ON TO RELATE HOW HE WAS SENT TO NORWAY WITH ORDERS TO DRESS IN

CIVILIAN CLOTHES, AND WAS ABLE TO GET THE ASSISTANCE OF THE WEHRMACHT ONLY BECAUSE HE HAD BROUGHT ALONG IN HIS PERSONAL EFFECTS, AGAINST ORDERS, HIS WAFFEN-SS PAYBOOK, LISTING HIM AS OBERSTURMFUHRER (1ST LIEUTENANT). HE GOES ON TO SAY THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE HIS PAYBOOK ANNOTATED TO REFLECT HIS RECENT PROMOTION TO HAUPTSTURMFUHRER (CAPTAIN), AS THIS WOULD GIVE HIM A LITTLE MORE CLOUT. INTERESTINGLY ENOUGH, HE SAYS THAT THE AUTHORIZATION SHOULD BE SENT THROUGH THE SD-HAUPTAMT, SINCE THEY WOULD BE FAMILIAR WITH HIS MISSION.

9. IT IS CLEAR FROM THE ABOVE THAT NEUMANN WAS STILL WORKING FOR THE SD OR AT LEAST STILL CONSIDERED A "HEYDRICH MAN", AND THAT HIS ASSERTION THAT HE WAS SENT ON BEHALF OF THE AHNENERBE WAS PROBABLY HIS COVER STORY. IT REMAINS TO BE DISCOVERED WHAT HIS ACTUAL MISSION WAS IN NORTHERN NORWAY. HE APPEARS TO HAVE ACQUIRED QUITE AN EXPERTISE IN THINGS NORWEGIAN DURING THIS MISSION, SINCE HE WAS REASSIGNED THERE WITH A POSITION IN THE CIVILIAN ADMINISTRATION LATER IN THE WAR. THERE ARE SEVERAL SCENARIOS CONSISTENT WITH THE TIME PERIOD INVOLVED, WHICH COULD REPRESENT HIS REAL MISSION. IT COULD HAVE BEEN TO ASSESS THE POSSIBILITY THAT QUISLING AND HIS NORWEGIAN NAZI PARTY COULD, AS HE MAINTAINED TO HITLER, ESTABLISH A SOLID, PRO-GERMAN

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NATIONAL GOVERNMENT. HE COULD ALSO HAVE BEEN ATTEMPTING TO ESTABLISH CONTACT WITH THE NORWEGIAN KING AND HIS CABINET, WHO HAD FLED TO NORTHERN NORWAY, OR HE COULD HAVE BEEN SCOUTING OUT SUPPLY ROUTES FROM SWEDEN INTO NORTHERN NORWAY.

10. NEUMANN'S SUBSEQUENT CAREER TALLIES CLOSELY WITH THE BDC SUMMARY AND OTHER SOURCES. HIS INTERLUDE IN SWEDEN IS INTRIGUING. HE STATES THAT HE "FOUGHT WITH A MAN BY THE NAME OF ALEXANDER KOLONTIN." IS HE REFERRING TO THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO SWEDEN, MADAME ALEXANDRA KOLLONTAI? MADAME KOLLONTAI, ONE OF THE MOST ACCOMPLISHED DIPLOMATS OF THE PERIOD, WAS FAMOUS FOR HER RESISTANCE TO GERMAN PRESSURE AGAINST THE SWEDES, AND HAD A REPUTATION FOR MAKING THEM VERY UNCOMFORTABLE CONCERNING THEIR SOMEWHAT HYPOCRITICAL "NEUTRALITY." AGAIN, NEUMANN'S REAL MOTIVE FOR BEING IN SWEDEN IS OBSCURED. WHY WOULD HE HAVE BEEN THERE IN DECEMBER OF 1941, NEGOTIATING A SUPPLY AGREEMENT, WHEN THE SWEDES HAD BEEN PERMITTING THE RESUPPLY OF GERMAN FORCES IN

NORTHERN NORWAY SINCE JUNE 1940? INDEED, BETWEEN MID-1940 AND AUGUST 1943, MORE THAN TWO MILLION GERMAN TROOPS WERE TRANSPORTED TO AND FROM NORWAY ON SWEDISH RAILWAYS, ALONG WITH THEIR SUPPLIES, WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION.

11. NEUMANN'S SECOND ASSIGNMENT TO NORWAY WAS TO THE EINSATZSTAB WEGENER. THIS WAS THE GERMAN NAZI PARTY'S ORGANIZATIONAL HEADQUARTERS IN NORWAY, HEADED BY PAUL WEGENER. NEUMANN'S ROLE IN THIS ORGANIZATION WAS AS ADVISOR TO THE NASJONAL SAMLING (NS). HE WAS IN CHARGE OF TRAINING AND INDOCTRINATION FOR THE NS, THE NORWEGIAN SA, THE HIRD, AND FOR THE NS YOUTH ORGANIZATION. IT SEEMS CERTAIN THAT ONE OF HIS JOBS WAS TO INSTILL ANTI-SEMITIC AND ANTI-DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES INTO THESE ORGANIZATION AND RE-ENFORCE THEIR LOYALTY TO GERMANY. NEUMANN SUCCEEDED WEGENER IN THE JOB AS HEAD OF THE EINSATZSTAB, GIVING HIM A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE SECOND ONLY TO THE REICHSKOMMISSAR, TERBOVEN. AS WE HAVE SEEN, IT IS LIKELY THAT NEUMANN AND TERBOVEN HAD KNOWN EACH OTHER IN EARLIER YEARS. IN ANY CASE, NEUMANN BECAME TERBOVEN'S DEPUTY. IN OCTOBER, 1942, HE WAS MADE LANDESGRUPPENLEITER OF THE AUSLANDS-ORGANIZATION OF THE NAZI PARTY, A POSITION WHICH THEORETICALLY GAVE HIM CONTROL OVER EVERY GERMAN CIVILIAN LIVING IN NORWAY.

12. IN OCTOBER OF 1944, NEUMANN WAS APPOINTED SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REICHSKOMMISSAR FOR NORTHERN NORWAY, WITH "FULL POWERS" TO ACT ON HIS BEHALF. HE WAS SENT TO THE NORTHERNMOST NORWEGIAN PROVINCES TO HELP WITH THE EVACUATION OF CIVILIANS FROM THESE AREAS. HITLER HAD DECREED THAT ALL NORWEGIAN WERE TO BE EVACUATED FROM THE AREA AND ALL CROPS, CATTLE AND BUILDINGS DESTROYED SO THAT THE ADVANCING RUSSIAN ARMIES

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WOULD FIND NOTHING. DESPITE THE CLAIMS OF THE NORWEGIAN HISTORIANS MENTIONED BY MR. NEUMANN, THERE ARE SEVERAL INCONSISTENCIES IN HIS STORY. IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT HE DID, IN FACT, PROTEST TO MARTIN BORMANN, THE FUHRER'S SECRETARY AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE HEAD OF THE PARTY, THE SCORCHED EARTH POLICY DECREED BY HITLER. WHY, HOWEVER, DID HE DO SO LITTLE IN HIS OWN RIGHT TO STOP THE SCOURING OF THE COUNTRYSIDE? HE COULD NOT, OF COURSE, PREVENT GENERAL RENDULIC, HEAD OF THE WEHRMACHT, FROM CARRYING OUT HIS ORDER. HE DID, HOWEVER, HAVE SOME INFLUENCE OVER REDISS, THE HEAD OF WAFFEN-SS AND POLICE FORCES IN NORWAY. HE ALSO APPEARS TO HAVE DONE NOTHING

TO INTERVENE WITH TERBOVEN TO PREVENT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE POLICY. INDEED, THE QUISLING GOVERNMENT, TO WHICH HE HAD BEEN ADVISOR, CONTRIBUTED MEN FROM THE HIRD TO HELP IN THE DESTRUCTION. IN THE END IT IS REASONABLE TO ASSUME THAT THOUGH HE PROTESTED THE ORDER, WHEN HIS PROTESTS WENT UNANSWERED, HE CARRIED OUT HIS ORDERS FOR THE DENUING OF NORTHERN NORWAY.

13. DEPARTMENT APOLOGIZES FOR THE LENGTH OF THIS EXPOSITION, THOUGH IN THE INTEREST OF FAIRNESS IT SEEMED BEST TO LAY OUT IN DETAIL THE OBJECTIONS WHICH RESEARCH HAS REVEALED IN THIS CASE. DEPARTMENT INVITES MR. NEUMANN'S CLARIFICATION OF THESE POINTS AND ANY AMPLIFICATIONS HE IS WILLING TO MAKE REGARDING HIS CAREER. IT IS VERY EVIDENT THAT MR. NEUMANN WAS ATTACHED TO THE SD FOR MOST OF HIS CAREER. HIS PROXIMITY TO HEYDRICH, WHO DESIGNED OR INSPIRED MOST OF THE ENORMOUS ATROCITIES OF THE NAZI ERA, MAKES IT DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE THAT HE HAD NO ROLE IN THE PERSECUTION OF INDIVIDUALS WHICH RENDERS HIM INELIGIBLE UNDER 212 (A)(33). WHITEHEAD

ADMIN  
END OF MESSAGE

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